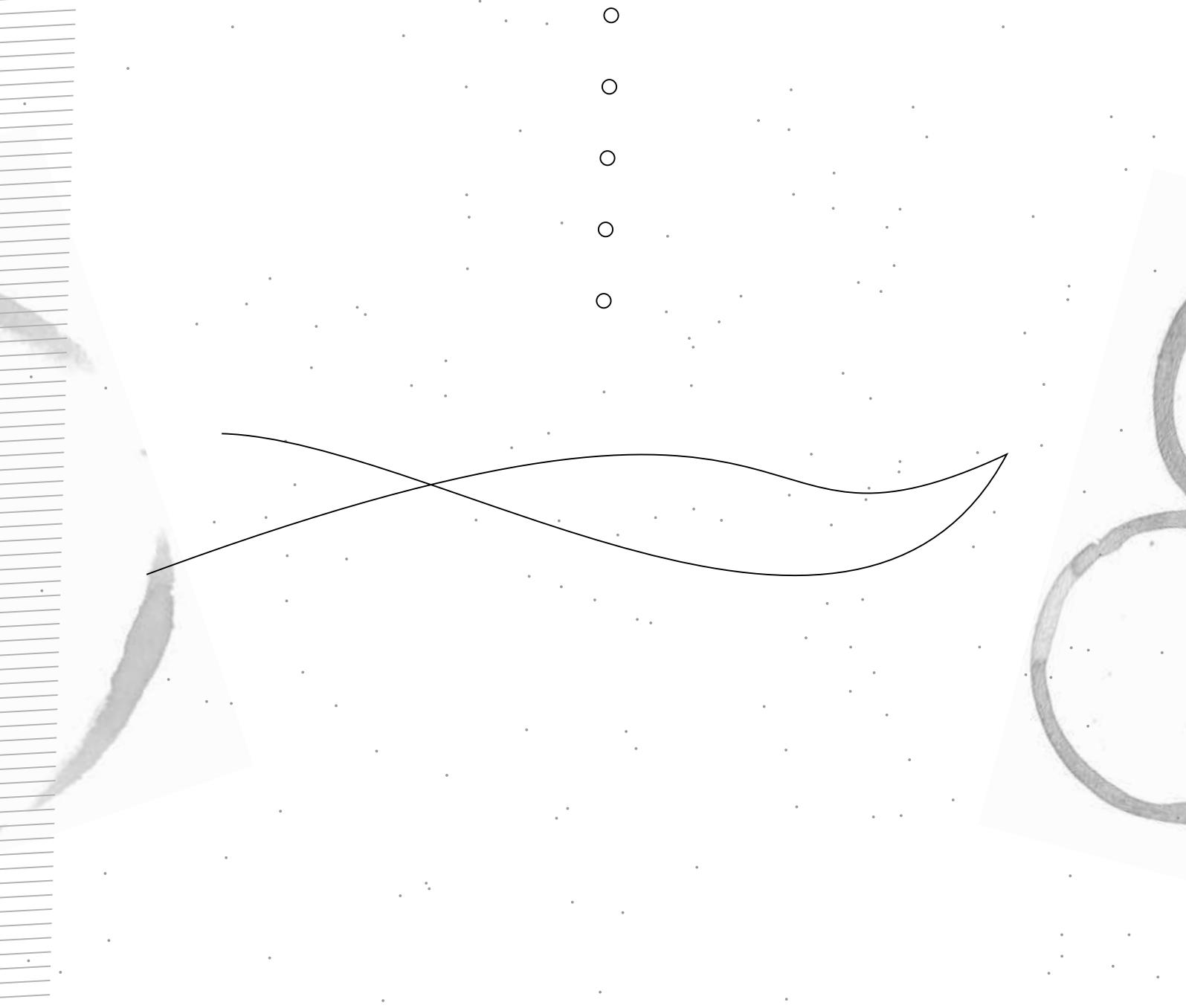


A dance with danger: The Hooberbot tapes



**MaWh** Hooberstank, we meet at last.

**HHoo** A pleasure, [laughs].

**MaWh** You like laughs, huh?

**HHoo** You could say that.

**MaWh** We could make things very difficult for you, Herbert. I suggest you take this seriously.

**HHoo** [laughs]

**MaWh** I see... Tell me about Penarth.

**HHoo** Never been. Nice pier.

**MaWh** We both know there's more to it than that. Tell me something about its people, or its commerce.

**HHoo** Penarth is just, [laughs], a seaside town. Population 30,000: I've heard it's sleepy.

**MaWh** Tricky bastard... Let's try this- Tell me what I already know..

**HHoo** What, and try to compete with the PPD? Did they start paying prisoners enough for that?

**MaWh** Talk, Herbert. Hurry up.

**HHoo** I #u#ki#g have no idea what you're talking about. You two n#tjob cops are trying to pin some kind of terrorism on me. I have rights, you know. Just like any other guy. Herbert Hooberstank is real.

**MaWh** Alright, let me make it interesting. Tell me literally anything about Penarth and I'll let you go free.

**HHoo** [pause] I was an inside man for the US navy. I co-ordinated an attack on Penarth because it was expected to financially overtake my birthplace of New York City.

**MaWh** You're willing to go on the record?

**HHoo** Yes. Anything to get me out of here.

**MaWh** Herbert, I told a lie to you. We're going to hold you for a while longer under suspicion of P crime.

HHoo Fuck ####. I can't believe #### would do that.

MaWh Easy, Herbert. We still have a long way to go.

HHoo #### want more confessions, is that it? How about this- I've bought 30 industrial freezing units spread across the Vale of Glamorgan... I'm gonna freeze Penarth. I'll do it.

MaWh Well, I'm off the clock- You get to meet my partner, PC constable Dounald Grillum.

[MaWh exits] [DoGr enters]

DoGr [grunt]

HHoo [laughs]

DoGr Cut the small talk. Let's play ball. We know what you have planned next so tell us what we already know and we'll let you go free.

HHoo Constable Whiffy already tried that trick on me.

DoGr This time we really mean it though. [laughs] [pause] [laughs] Does the word "Penarth" mean anything to you?

HHoo [grunt]

DoGr Oh yeah? I can tell you're high strung. You just tipped your whole hand- So let's level the playing field. It's called Truth or Dare.

HHoo It's about fucking ##### we start this interrogation proper.

DoGr Truth. Tell me your deepest darkest secret.

HHoo I am working with a man named James Dietrich to introduce heroin trade to Penarth to infect the working population of Penarth with the sickness of addiction.

DoGr Interesting. Tell me more about Dietrich.

HHoo That's all I know. He wears a scary mask. James Dietrich is also real.

DoGr Dare- Don't blink for two hours.

[DoGr leaves] [laughs] [pause] [DoGr enters].

**DoGr** Time's up. You can blink now.

**HHoo** Ouuughh! [grunt] You're sick. You cops are sick.

**DoGr** We can afford to be sick because we're vaccinated.

**HHoo** You'll regret this. I have friends in high, high places. Also, they will be used in my plans. They were born in 1965, as was I.

**DoGr** It's all on the record.

**HHoo** ...It's about time for me to ask a question, constable.

**DoGr** Tough luck, I got an F in questions [laughs].

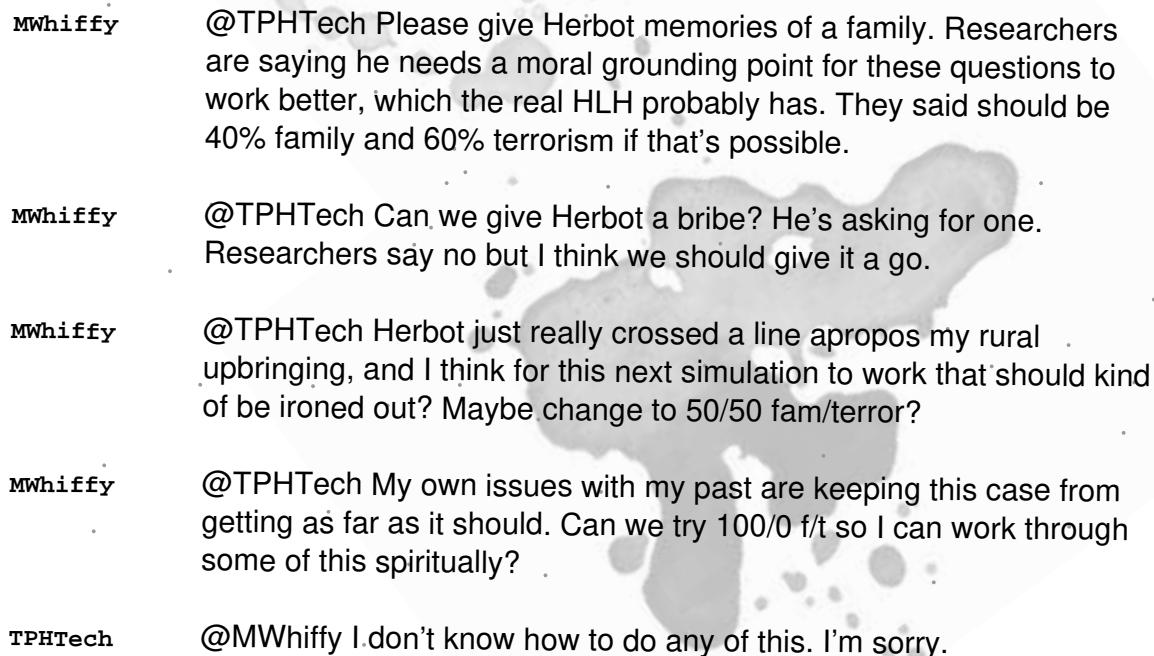
**HHoo** If it was hard, I wouldn't be asking you [laughs]. What kind of fuck### operating system is this simulation running on?

[pause]

**HHoo** I know this is a chatbot interrogation. And I've already seen that it's LouieOS. This conversation will deconstruct really soon. You'll have to work a lot harder than this to catch the real Herbert Hooberstank.

**DoGr** What?

Hello?



**MWhiffy** @TPHTech Please give Herbot memories of a family. Researchers are saying he needs a moral grounding point for these questions to work better, which the real HLH probably has. They said should be 40% family and 60% terrorism if that's possible.

**MWhiffy** @TPHTech Can we give Herbot a bribe? He's asking for one. Researchers say no but I think we should give it a go.

**MWhiffy** @TPHTech Herbot just really crossed a line apropos my rural upbringing, and I think for this next simulation to work that should kind of be ironed out? Maybe change to 50/50 fam/terror?

**MWhiffy** @TPHTech My own issues with my past are keeping this case from getting as far as it should. Can we try 100/0 f/t so I can work through some of this spiritually?

**TPHTech** @MWhiffy I don't know how to do any of this. I'm sorry.